

## August 2006 Web Vers

### Question

How can you score a child (HAPI-C) for items 1, 2 and 3 if the client does not see problems, but mother reports client's apathy when it comes to school, and complying with probation requirements such as staying clean. The client also expresses anger and irritability with parents and gets into shouting matches. Could the client be scored under distress, anxiety and depression? Would not complying with probation to stay clean be considered functioning?

Regarding HAPI C items 10-12

If parental rights are not terminated, should the parents be seen as a unit? If father is incarcerated, would you only rate father or do you always rate biological parents as a unit, even if they are separated or if one is uninvolved? This would then rate the custodial parent.

1) If someone works for a company with a "drug free" policy and they are fired because of random drug screen (in the past 30 days), but otherwise was/is capable of doing the job, could they be scored severely impaired (1 or 2) on item E, due to substance abuse/dependence. Likewise on the relevant N item? Same question if unable to work and loose job because arrested/incarcerated in past 30 days (and fired) for drug/alcohol related charges.

2) If some has lost their drivers license you would not consider

not having a license as a functional impairment. Not being able to arrange transportation would be a functional impairment. Likewise getting rides from friends or co-workers would not be support. However if someone has to arrange transportation, because they've lost their license, does that, or could that constitute "extra effort" due to the substance abuse/dependence?

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## sion-Tech Questions/Answers

### Response

It is permissible to override the client's report with the mother's report if it is believed to be more accurate. Unless symptoms of anxiety or depression can be listed that directly impair the client's functioning, the client should not be scored for anxiety or depression. If the clinician feels that apathy is a symptom of depression (such as child has given up) it could be documented under depression. Irritability and apathy that causes the client to fight with their family could fit under distress with irritability being the symptom and interpersonal function with family being the impairment. If the client not staying clean can be attributed to symptoms of anxiety (uses drugs because they are overwhelmed with anxiety) or depression (uses substances because they are very sad) you could look at not staying clean (complying with probation) as the functioning that is impaired. It could also score under risk behavior.

Scoring can be based on the worse of the two parents in the child's life. If one parent's rights have been terminated, you can no longer score this parent. You would score the other parent if their rights have not been terminated. If both have had their rights terminated, score whomever is raising or is expected to raise the child. An incarcerated parent does not necessarily mean their rights have been terminated. If there is a parent in jail, you can score this parent. A similar situation if a parent was deceased. If the parent had been deceased for a long while and the surviving parent was doing an excellent job, it would make more sense to score this parent. If the death were more recent and seems to be affecting the child, you would maybe want to score the deceased parent.

1) If someone lost their job because of a drug screen within the past 30 days, you could state that due to their symptoms of addiction (illegal use) they lost their job because they failed a drug screening and that it was beyond their capability to maintain employment and you could score a 1 or 2. For the N item, you could also score the loss of job from the positive drug screening.

2) Yes

